



## After Hours Provisions

In circumstances where an accredited medical deputising service (MDS) or co-operative is not available, or the Practice GP(s) do not provide their own care for patients outside normal opening hours, formal arrangements should exist with an appropriately accredited hospital or an after hours facility.

### RACGP Standards

**1.1.4A** *formal arrangements exist with an appropriately accredited local hospital or an after hours facility, in the circumstances where we do not use an accredited medical deputising service or cooperative*

### Assessment methods

- Document review of arrangements with after hours provider

Surveyors will look for evidence of a contractual arrangement with an accredited MDS, accredited local hospital / after hours facility. The surveyors will also look for evidence that the facility used is accredited.

### Meeting the standards

The documentation of the arrangement (contract) shall include:

- Reference to the timely reporting of the care provided back to the patient's nominated practice;
- A defined means of access to patient health information and to the practice GP(s) in exceptional circumstances;
- Assessment by the Practice that the care outside normal opening hours will be provided by appropriately qualified health professionals.

Documentation will also contain how Doctors are advised of whom was seen, for what purpose, actions taken, advice provided and follow up required.